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FOREST CITY HORROR LOCAL DIRECTOR HAS AN AXE TO GRIND

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TRUE TEST MONSTER LEADS BUDS INTO BOSTON

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LONDON

metro

Wednesday,
November 30, 2011
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News worth
sharing.



► Actors Anthony Mackie and Kate Beckinsale take the stage at a press conference to announce the nominees for the 2012 Spirit Awards, which honour independent films. The event took place yesterday at The London hotel in West Hollywood, Calif. More coverage, page 16.

JOHN SHEARER/GETTY IMAGES FOR PIAGET

Ombudsman probes secret council vote

► Occupy London campers were evicted on Nov. 8, hours after closed-door meeting



ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

It will be up to city councillors to decide how much information the Ontario ombudsman has at his fingertips for an investigation into a closed-door meeting about Occupy London.

City clerk Cathy Saunders said she was notified of the probe about 10 days ago and has turned over minutes from the public portion of the Nov. 7 council meeting, the agenda and a copy of the bylaw that outlines council procedure. Now the ombudsman has requested minutes from the closed meeting, which Saunders said are not public record.

"The reason we went into closed session was to receive advice from the solicitor," Saunders said yesterday. "It would be up to council to decide if they wish to waive the solicitor-client privilege" and make the minutes available.

Linda Williamson, director of communications for Ombudsman André Marin, said the investigation started after "a couple" of complaints were filed. The process — which could include interviewing councillors to see if they violated the Ontario Municipal Act — could take weeks or months.

"It will be done as quickly as possible," Williamson said.

If the city is found in the wrong, it will be required to make the

Evoking closure

In general, public officials can close meetings if the topic deals with:

- Personnel matters
- Buying or selling land
- Security concerns
- Labour relations
- Litigation
- Legal advice

SOURCE: OMBUDSMAN OF ONTARIO

ombudsman's report public.

"That is really the only consequence," Williamson said.

Therein lies one of the problems, said Eric Steeves, an Occupy London participant who helped research the legality of the city meeting.

While the investigation is "satisfying," the possible penalty carries virtually no weight, he said. That only serves to highlight the importance of the global Occupy movement, Steeves said.

"They can do whatever they want to do," he said, referring to government officials. "The motivation not to do the bad thing isn't there in our system."

Saunders stands behind the city's actions, saying the Municipal Act allows officials to talk privately. While councillors cannot pass bylaws in secret, they can vote on an issue "for the purpose of giving staff direction," she said.

Finally, an awards ceremony with spirit

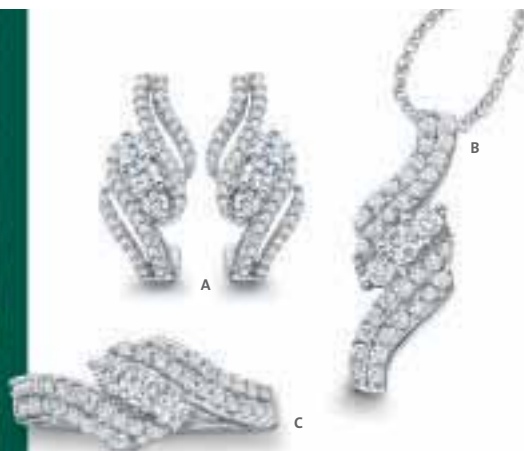


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Little tweets that could

► Twitter campaign aims to bring national radio show to London venue



ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONNEWS.CA

Two little tweets.

That's all it took to start a campaign aimed at attracting an arts-and-entertainment radio show to London.

But, perhaps more importantly, the effort is bringing business owners, artists and everyone in between together for a common cause, leaders said.

It all started Oct. 22 when Londoner Ian Gifford sent Jian Ghomeshi — host of CBC radio's Q — a Twitter message asking him to bring his live show to the Forest City.

Gifford, 42, followed up the invite with a similar social-media invite about an hour later.

From there, the ball was rolling. The tweets were being retweeted, the word was spreading and #JianInLdnOnt was picking up attention.

"Next thing you know, we've got (MPP) Deb Matthews and others saying, 'I'd be into that,'" Gifford said.

Things turned into a challenge after Ghomeshi asked — via Twitter, of course — why Mayor Joe Fontana hadn't thrown his support the effort.

While Fontana remained mum, Brantford's mayor got involved saying

Follow along

► A website — jian.3oh6.com — has been created to keep up with the tweets and special offers meant to bring CBC's Q Live show to London. There's also a Facebook page, just search "Jian Ghomeshi London."

he wanted his town in the running.

Since then, folks at the CBC have monitoring the throwdown that's attracted interest from as far away as Guelph and Hamilton.

Ghomeshi plans to announce Dec. 8 which city has earned his approval.

In the meantime, the fight is on in London, where people have offered up everything from free music lessons to free website-design time as ways of proving how dedicated they are to winning Ghomeshi's favour.

As for Gifford, he admits that he's getting a little more than he bargained for.

"I had no intention of getting myself into a competition. I just wanted the show here in London," the professional musician and sound technician said.

"Now I feel the responsibility to keep up with it. Now I've got to keep going."

Wet. Weather



► Umbrellas were the name of the game yesterday afternoon as people made their way along Dundas Street during the lunch hour.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Rainfall likely turning to snowfall

Environment Canada had the London area under a rainfall warning all day with up to 40 millimetres expected. Wet snow was in the forecast for this morning's commute, with the drippy weather clearing up by noon. Sunshine is expected tomorrow with wet weather returning Friday. Highs will hover around freezing for the rest of the week.

1

news


Only one in four Americans with the AIDS virus has the infection under control with medications, U.S. federal health officials say. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web

November is traditionally a strong month on the markets, says Allan Small, but this year a large sell-off has wiped out all the gains made in October. More at metronews.ca/investing

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Parking curbs care, doc says

► Doctor's proposal that hospitals do away with parking fees sparks debate

► Officials on both sides of the issue say it isn't one to be taken lightly



► A woman reaches out her car window yesterday to snag a parking pass in the garage at St. Joseph's hospital on Richmond Street. An editorial published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal this week suggests hospitals should do away with paid parking, which the author sums up as a health-care user fee in disguise.



ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

Doing away with fees for hospital parking isn't as cut and dry as a Canadian Medical Association Journal editorial may have made it seem, critics say.

The editorial, published Monday, calls the charges a health-care user fee in disguise and an impediment to good care. Those on the other side of the debate said parking likely wouldn't exist if users didn't pony up.

Simply put, parking fees beget parking spaces, said Kathy Burrill, vice-president of communications and public affairs for St. Joseph's Health Care London.

"The building ... and upkeep of hospital parking facilities are not funded through our operating dollars. There's no taxpayer funding going into those facilities at hospitals across the province," she said yesterday. "In order for hospitals to have the capacity ... we have to generate the

revenue to be able to do that."

Even Jeff Hanks, co-chairman of the London Health Coalition, a patient advocacy group, admits it's a bit of a quandary. While he agrees with Ottawa neurologist Dr. Rajendra Kale — the editorial's author — in principle, hospitals and the province need to work together to figure out something that works for all parties involved, he said.

"If (paid parking is) taking away ... someone's accessibility (to care) ... it's a barrier to care, and the Canada Health Act was created to stop barriers and guarantee accessibility," said Hanks, a registered nurse who suggests fees should at least be waived for people who prove they can't afford them.

At the same time, he said, "there's the reality out there that governments keep cutting taxes" and driving hospitals further into deficits.

"The province covers 74 per cent of hospital's costs. ... Unfortunately, (parking has) become one of the

\$3.50

Parking fees at acute-care facilities — St. Joseph's Health Care London: \$3.50 for first hour with a daily maximum of \$11. London Health Sciences Centre: \$3.50 for first hour with a daily maximum of \$10.50.

ways they're looking to fund the other 26 per cent.

"I think we need to have a dialogue and try and come up with some created solutions to this problem."

Parking is an ongoing discussion at St. Joseph's Health Care London, Burrill said. Fees — which vary across the hospital's sites — are discussed annually as part of the overall budget.

A variety of factors are considered when rates are set, including how fees stack up with those at other hospitals and who will be using specific lots, Burrill said.

At St. Joseph's Parkwood Hospital, for example, which provides long-term care, there's a flat rate of \$4 a day compared to the maximum \$11 a day at the acute-care facility on Richmond Street. Rates are cheaper at Parkwood partially because patients there are more likely to have frequent visitors, Burrill said.

"I can really appreciate that in today's economic client that there is a lot of concern about how people are managing and how they are accessing care," she said. "At the same time, I'm not sure (the editorial's suggestion) was the right ... solution because ... we have to provide a service and sustain it."

'Absurd' waste

- Officials at the London Health Sciences Centre referred questions to the Ontario Hospital Association.
- The association's chief executive officer has called the medical journal's editorial an "absurd" waste of space.

Londoner totally scores sportscaster role

CONTRIBUTED

London's Jackie Redmond has won a national TV competition to be a sports broadcaster.

Redmond defeated nine other finalists — selected from thousands of applicants — to win Drafted 3: The Search for Canada's Next Sportscaster on theScore.

"I was confident that I had the potential to win, but I knew that the competition was stiff and other contestants all had really big personalities in different ways," said Redmond, a former on-air radio personality in London.

"When I first got to Toronto for the contest, I was intimidated by that a little bit. Once I got over that, it was just working hard and getting through the grind."

The 10-week sportscaster bootcamp featured competitions in everything from highlight challenges to mock job interviews.

Redmond, 24, gets a one-year contract with theScore, as well as a one-year deal to be a Gillette spokesperson.

Redmond starts at theScore next week, although she doesn't know yet when she'll be on air.

"I would love to do any-



► Jackie Redmond studied broadcast journalism at Guelph Humber.

thing in hockey or basketball — those are my favourite sports," she said about her broadcasting goals. "But I like the big four (sports); I like the analysis side of the game. I like watching the games and talking about what's going on and what can be done better." ● JIM REYNO

Drafted winner

- The winner of the Drafted series is hired as a contributor to theScore Television Network, Score Mobile, theScore.com and theScore Satellite Radio.

BINGE DRINKING

Booze a teen refuge, report says

Students in Ontario are smoking fewer cigarettes, but binge drinking is a growing health concern, especially among teenagers who drink when they are upset.

A new report by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health says alcohol is the substance used by the largest number of students, with 55 per cent saying they'd had a drink in the past year.

Binge drinking has dropped a little in the last decade, but thousands of

high school students still down five or more drinks on a single occasion at least once a month.

The report's author says one of the main concerns is that one in 10 of the students reported binge drinking at times of psychological distress.

There are also concerns about teens smoking pot and then driving, as well as their heavy consumption of high-caffeine energy drinks.

The survey included 9,288 students across Ontario in Grades 7 to 12.

Health Canada issued guidelines on safe drinking last week, warning adult women to limit alcohol consumption to two drinks a day, and men to stop at three.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Who benefits?

- LCBO's Spirit of Giving campaign raises money for Ontario's four children's hospitals and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

Add some cheer to kids hospitals with a donation in the spirit of the season

Starting tomorrow, you can help support Children's Health Foundation by making a donation at any of the 620 LCBO stores throughout On-

tario. Children's Health Foundation donation boxes will be displayed at LCBO checkout counters until Dec. 31. As part of LCBO's annual Spirit of

Giving campaign, cashiers will also invite customers to add a \$2, \$5 or \$10 donation to their purchase until Dec. 31.

● METRO

Celeb doc to speak at Western

The University of Western Ontario presents an evening with Dr. Michael Roizen tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Best Western Lamp-lighter Inn and Conference Centre.

Roizen, chair of the Cleveland Clinic Wellness Institute, is best known as best-selling author and a regular guest on Oprah and Dr. Oz. In his presen-

tation, Real Age and You: The Cleveland Clinic Experience on Controlling Your Genes and What it Means for You, Roizen will discuss how lifestyle choices and behaviour impact longevity and health.

He'll also reveal what he calls our "real age" which is different from our number of birthdays. For instance, Roizen says he's 62 calendar years but his real age is 42.8.

Registration is \$35 per person for the lecture and a copy of Roizen's newest book.

● METRO

Horror flick throwback

► Filmmaker promises Psychotic Forest Ranger debut will thrill horror fans



ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

Get out your leg warmers, strap on those Swatch watches and tease up that hair, baby.

Local filmmaker Brad Mills is about to throw Londoners back into the 1980s. Oh, yeah, and he'd like to take the rest of the world along for the ride.

"If you have a good



sense of humour, I think you're going to really enjoy it," Mills, 29, said. "But if you're a horror fan, you'll love it."

While he's not exactly summing up the acid-washed decade as a whole, Mills is talking about The Legend of the Psychotic Forest Ranger — his take on everything '80s B-list horror movies had to give.

The film, making its London debut tonight, is

campy, predictable, cliché and the title pretty much says it all — teens go into woods to party, make a wrong turn, enter crazy guy with axe stage left. But, that's exactly what Mills wanted when he set out to make his first movie.

Shortly after graduating from a Toronto comedy-writing school, Mills holed himself up in his Strathroy basement for a few days and pounded out the script.

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Study shows fewer crashes in Ontario

- Collision rates in province dropped 7 per cent
- Brockville drivers shine with lowest crash rate

The safest place to drive in Ontario is Brockville.

An insurance company says Brockville has the lowest collision rate of 45 Ontario communities surveyed in its Ontario Safe Driving Study.

Rounding out the five safest communities in the Allstate Canada survey are Welland, Chatham, Amherstburg and St. Thomas.

Five Greater Toronto Area communities — Bolton, Markham, Toronto, Thornhill and Brampton — had the highest collision rates in the province.

Northern Ontario continues to be the region where drivers have the lowest crash-frequency rate, with Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie and Greater Sudbury all in the top 10.

Belleville topped the previous list but dropped to 13th place, while North Bay dropped from 14th spot to 32nd.

The Ontario Safe Driving

Study looked at collision frequencies and ranked them based on Allstate Canada claims data for 2009-2011 and also compared them to data from 2007-2009.

Only communities where Allstate Canada insured a minimum of 900 cars between 2009 and 2011 are ranked and rankings were based solely on Allstate Canada's car-collision-frequency data. Allstate said collision rates in the province dropped seven per cent from 2007-09 to 2009-11.

We are pleased to see the overall decrease in Ontario's collision rate and hope to see this trend continue," said Tony Irwin, spokesperson for Allstate Canada.

There will be an event Tuesday in Brockville to congratulate the city's drivers for having Ontario's lowest collision rate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cities Ranked

Collision frequency rates per 100 cars for 2009-11 from Allstate Canada Ontario Safe Driving Study (out of 45 communities):

- 1 Brockville (2.48)
- 2 Welland (2.95)
- 3 Chatham (3.26)
- 4 Amherstburg (3.50)
- 5 St. Thomas (3.55)
- 36 London (5.70)
- 43 Toronto (6.16)
- 45 Brampton (6.78)

Occupy. Squat



► In this photo taken Nov. 22, an Occupy Seattle protester, who declined to be identified, enters a formerly boarded-up duplex that protesters have taken over in Seattle's Central District.

ELAINE THOMPSON / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's not squatting, it's occupying

To protest foreclosures in the U.S.'s housing market, Occupy Wall Street demonstrators in Seattle, Portland and Oakland have taken up a new tactic: squatting in vacant properties.

Record year for 'bully breed' dogs: Society

Calgary Humane Society officials fear dogs are being bred for criminal purposes in record numbers this year.

Executive director Patricia Cameron said while final numbers are still being tabulated, the society is seeing a greater number of violent and super-sized canines taken in at their shelter.

"They're what we call bully breeds," she said. "We believe there is no bad

breed of animal; however, we believe an ultra-large dog — because of their strength and athleticism — require a certain kind of owner and home," Cameron said.

Evidence in the past has indicated these types of dogs may be used in rural Alberta fighting rings and to guard criminal endeavours, namely marijuana grow operations, Cameron said.

Calgary bylaw boss Bill



METRO FILE

► Pit bulls and mastiffs are turning up more frequently at the Calgary Humane Society. Its director says these breeds can be used for criminal purposes.

Bruce said his staff is seeing more cross-breeding being conducted between large species to create super-sized dogs, some as heavy as 150 pounds.

"People often don't realize they have got more dog than they can handle," Bruce said.

Cameron said the society has worked in the past with online classifieds site to prevent the sale of large-breed dogs, but more effort is needed. ● METRO CALGARY

Neglect's effects

The Society has seen nearly 500 pit bulls pass through its shelter in the last five years.

- Many of the dogs have not been taught basic manners, making them likely to attack if they feel threatened
- In May, 30 dehydrated pit bull terriers were seized from a Calgary operation.

Suspect bites back

Police in Chatham, Ont., say a man bit an officer on the hand after being arrested for allegedly not paying a cab fare.

A suspect was placed in the back of a police cruiser after a cabbie accused him

of not paying a \$44 bill.

Police say an officer who searched the man found a crack pipe inside his jacket. The 39-year-old suspect was sent to hospital as a precaution. He faces multiple charges. CFCO

Man charged after Facebook threat

Ottawa police say a 22-year-old man is facing charges after allegedly threatening Ottawa's transit system on Facebook.

Police say a person alert-

ed them to a Facebook posting on Nov. 21 that targeted OC Transpo.

James Perry of Ottawa was arrested late last week and charged with one count of uttering threats of death or bodily harm.

He is to appear in court on Dec. 21.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

School eases ball ban

A ball ban at a Toronto school has been bounced — partially.

Earl Beatty Public School went full Nerf earlier this month after a parent suffered a concussion from being hit in the head with a soccer ball.

After a heated meeting between parents and school trustees on Monday night, the principal eased the ball ban.

The ban created a lot of controversy, even making the lineup of Saturday Night Live. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Countries at odds over green fund at UN climate talks

► Global-warming report provides bleak backdrop to Durban conference

International climate negotiators were at odds yesterday on how to raise billions of dollars to help poor countries cope with global warming. A major shipping group is willing to help, endorsing a proposal for a carbon tax on vessels carrying the world's trade.

Details of the tussle over the funding emerged as the UN's weather agency reported that 2011 was tied as the 10th-hottest year

since records began in 1850. Arctic sea ice, a barometer for the entire planet, had shrunk to a record low volume, said the World Meteorological Organization.

Putting the final touches on what's known as the Green Climate Fund is a top issue at the 192-party UN climate conference that was in its second day Tuesday in the South African coastal city of Dur-

ban, and one of the keys of a strategy to contain greenhouse gas emissions and keep global warming within manageable limits.

The two-week conference is to finalize a plan on managing climate finances, due to scale up to \$100 billion annually by 2020.

The International Chamber of Shipping, representing about 80 per cent of the world's merchant ma-

rine, joined forces with aid groups Oxfam and WWF International to urge the conference to adopt guidelines for a levy on carbon emissions by ships.

Details of any levy would be worked out by the International Maritime Organization, the UN agency regulating international shipping, the aid groups and the chamber said in a joint statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

\$100B

The two-week conference is to finalize a plan on managing climate finances, due to scale up to \$100 billion annually by 2020.

More heat than we can handle?

The world temperatures report released yesterday provided a bleak backdrop to negotiators seeking ways to limit pollution blamed for global warming.

2011 has been a year of extreme weather, the

World Meteorological Organization reported. Drought in East Africa has left tens of thousands dead; lethal floods submerged large areas of Asia; the United States suffered 14 separate weather catastrophes with damage

topping \$1 billion each.

"The science is solid and proves unequivocally that the world is warming," said R.D.J. Lengoasa, the WMO's deputy director, adding that human activity is a significant contributor.

Mobs storm British embassy in Tehran

Hardline Iranian protesters stormed British diplomatic compounds yesterday, hauling down the Union Jack, torching an embassy vehicle and pelting buildings with petrol bombs in what began as an apparent state-approved show of anger over the latest Western sanctions to punish Tehran for defiance over its nuclear program.

The hours-long assault on the British embassy and a residential complex for staff — in chaotic scenes reminiscent of the seizing of the U.S. embassy in 1979 — could push already frayed diplomatic ties toward the breaking point.

Iran's parliament approved a bill Sunday to downgrade relations with Britain, one of America's closest allies with diplomatic envoys in the Islamic Republic.

Calling yesterday's attack "outrageous and indefensible," British Prime Minister David Cameron said that Iran's failure to



► Iranian police officers prevent protesters from entering the British embassy as others stand on the gates, holding a satirized British flag in Tehran yesterday.

defend the embassy and its staff was a disgrace and would have "serious consequences."

He said all embassy staff had been accounted for and praised Britain's ambassador to Iran for handling a "dangerous situation with calm and professionalism."

Sorting out who to blame may be difficult.

The late-afternoon demonstration outside the British Embassy was or-

ganized by pro-government groups at universities and Islamic seminaries, and could not have taken place without official sanction.

However, such anti-Western rallies often draw ultraconservative factions such as the basiji, a paramilitary group run by the powerful Revolutionary Guard that is directly controlled by Iran's ruling theocracy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

Militants call for restaurant boycott

HARARE, ZIMBABWE. A militant youth group loyal to Zimbabwe's president is calling for a boycott of a restaurant chain whose latest advertisement depicts the aging, authoritarian president as "the last dictator standing," state radio reported yesterday.

The radio quoted the head of the group calling for South Africa-based Nando's Chicken to withdraw the ad or face punitive action.

The commercial shows Robert Mugabe dining alone at Christmas, his empty table set for departed dictators, including Moammar Gadhafi.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bird-cam star may not survive

NEW YORK. The mother of a red-tailed hawk family featured on a popular

New York City bird cam is suffering from a very serious leg injury.

The New York Times says the bird, named Violet, is now in danger of losing her right leg. A wildlife specialist, Dr. Elizabeth Bunting, fears the hawk may not survive.

Violet had leg problems even before the hawk cam began rolling on a 12th-floor window ledge at New York University.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nova Scotia school trustees dismissed

HALIFAX. Nova Scotia's education minister fired all 12 elected members of the South Shore Regional School Board yesterday, citing a report that concluded they broke the board's bylaws, were beset by conflict of interest and held too many in-camera meetings.

Minister Romona Jen-nex has appointed former provincial deputy minister Judith Sullivan-Corney to oversee the board until elections are held in October 2012. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Aussie iPhone too hot to handle

Apple's iPhone is the world's hottest smartphone — and one iPhone in Australia appears to be the hottest of the bunch as it spontaneously began smoking last week.

Regional Australian airline Regional Express described the "mobile phone self-combustion" in a statement, saying an iPhone belonging to a passenger started glowing red and expelling a "significant amount of dense smoke" after a flight from Lismore, Australia, landed in Sydney on Friday.

A photo accompanying the statement showed the shattered, warped back of a recent-model black iPhone.

The airline says a flight attendant extinguished the glow and nobody on the plane was hurt. Regional Express reported the incident to authorities in Australia. Apple says it will co-operate with any investigation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► A tree is lit up by cyclists generating electricity as part of an exhibit at the climate change conference in Durban, South Africa, yesterday.



Jackson's doctor gets four-year jail term

► Murray will likely serve less than two years in county jail ► Jackson family is pleased with sentence

A judge's stern voice broke the silence of a Los Angeles courtroom: "Money for madness medicine," he said before sentencing Dr. Conrad Murray to the maximum four years behind bars for Michael Jackson's death.

Judge Michael Pastor denounced Murray as a greedy, remorseless physician whose gross negligence killed the King of Pop.

Pastor said Murray sold out his profession for a promised fee of \$150,000 a month and accused Mur-

ray of committing a "horrific violation of trust" when he agreed to give Jackson a powerful anesthetic every night as an unorthodox cure for insomnia.

Jackson's family said in a statement read in court that they were not seeking revenge but a stiff sentence for Murray that served as a warning to opportunistic doctors.

"We're going to be a family. We're going to move forward," brother Jermaine Jackson said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doctor in debt

► Prosecutors cited Murray's statements to advocate that he receive the maximum term. They also want him to pay restitution to the singer's three children — Prince, Paris and Blanket.

► It's unlikely that Murray can pay any sizable sum, as he was deeply in debt when he agreed to serve as Jackson's personal physician for \$150,000 a month, and the singer died before Murray received any payment.

Kidnapper sues his hostages

A man who held a Kansas couple hostage in their home while fleeing from

authorities is suing them, claiming that they broke an oral contract made when he promised them money in exchange for hiding him from police.

Jesse Dimmick is serving an 11-year sentence after bursting into Jared and Lindsay Rowley's Topeka-

area home in September 2009.

Dimmick filed a breach of contract suit in response to a suit the Rowleys filed in September seeking \$75,000 from him for intruding in their home and causing emotional stress. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trend Alert:
**WARM
PUNCHES
ARE
HOT!**



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fabulous warm punch &
cool appetizer recipes.

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1 IN 9 WOMEN WILL GET BREAST CANCER IN HER LIFETIME

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Act now to reduce your risk of breast cancer
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Serbia targets gangsters' valuables

MARKO DROBNIAKOVIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

- EU insists country clamp down on organized crime
- Villas, luxury cars, furniture, even gas station seized

An opulent villa once owned by a drug lord is now home to children on cancer therapy, a drug lab has been turned into a youth centre, and cars used by gangsters are in the hands of the police that chased them.

Serbia's authorities have decided the best way to stop powerful Balkan crimes bosses is to hit where it hurts. So, they're taking away their valuables and putting them to use after years of relative impunity.

The European Union is insisting that the Balkan nation clamp down on organized crime to become a member of the bloc, pressuring officials to take on the powerful force — tycoons, mafia bosses and gangsters with ties to state security services.

In nearly three years, authorities have netted some \$500 million from impounding items.

Much of the loot is be-

Seizures

- Some of the impounded property belonged to the once mighty, such as a fugitive tycoon who owned a cellphone network under late president Slobodan Milosevic and the former general manager of the state power company.
- A notorious Balkan drug lord whose smuggling operations in Latin America were disrupted by U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agents lost his villas. Leather sofas, high-tech equipment, a home gym, all were sold at

auction.

- One of the villas has been converted to host families whose children are receiving cancer therapy in Belgrade. Last week, a villa was handed over to accommodate victims of human trafficking. A small house used for drug manufacturing has been renovated to host youth seminars.
- The convicted mastermind of the Djindjic assassination was left without half of his suburban villa, which is to become a day care centre. His wife and children stay in the other half.

ing used for humanitarian purposes, though other treasures — a white Ferrari with red-leather interiors, lines of jackpot machines and roulette tables — are sitting idle in a multi-story concrete warehouse in Belgrade's industrial zone on the Danube. Authorities hosting a re-

gional meeting on battling crime yesterday say they are proud of the work, long used in the West, but new in the emerging democracies of the Balkans.

"Serbia and the rest of the region are no longer a safe haven for organized crime," President Boris



► In this photo taken on Monday, employees of the Serbian Ministry of Justice stand next to a confiscated Ferrari at a warehouse used to store property confiscated from crimes bosses in Belgrade.

Tadic told the conference. The government is "waging a systematic war against crime," he added.

Confiscation of property is "a highly efficient tool" in that struggle, noted Yugoslav Stojiljkovic, who oversees the program.

Gangsters, once so pow-

erful they were able to plot the assassination of Serbia's first postwar reformist prime minister Zoran Djindjic, still have tentacles within the political establishment and are still able to get away with many illegal activities, said Tanja Tagirov, a crime analyst for the independ-

ent Vreme weekly.

For years, the pro-Western authorities that came to power after the Balkan wars of the 1990s were too weak to seriously tackle the criminal network closely connected to the country's own security services.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

7-seconds myth set straight



KAREN WASTESON
LONDON@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN LONDON

Men think almost as much about food as sex, but they don't think about sex as often as previously believed, a new study reveals.

"Young people don't think about sex as often as the general popular image suggests — the 'once every seven seconds' is very far off from reality, and the sex differences are not as large as we believe," says Terri Fisher, professor of psychology at Ohio State University and lead author of the study.

She recruited 163 female and 120 male college students between 18 and 25 for the week-long study.

Participants were asked to press a small plastic de-

vice every time they thought about sexual stimuli of any kind, fantasies and erotic images. Two control groups recording thoughts of food and sleep were also included.

It turned out men think about sex 19 times a day, and sleep 18 times a day. That is nearly twice as often as women think about sex, but men also think more about food and sleep. Both sexes were very intrigued to learn how often they thought about all three categories.

Men want more sex when they are young and need more food — that could be one possible reason they think about it more frequently.

However, that doesn't account for the sleep factor as they don't need more sleep, says Fisher.

Whale. Hoisted



► Orca Morgan is hoisted by crane into a container on a truck at the Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, Netherlands, early yesterday.

BAS CZERNIEWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whale of a trip for Orca

A Dutch dolphin park loaded a young killer whale into a container on a truck ahead of her transfer by plane to amusement park Loro Parque on the Spanish island of Tenerife yesterday after conservationists lost a legal battle to have her released.

Trial for magazine that doctored goddess' image

A German magazine has gone on trial in Athens on defamation charges for publishing a doctored image of an ancient Greek goddess on its cover raising her middle finger to Europeans.

Yesterday judges rejected bids by the prosecution and defence lawyers to dismiss charges against the publisher of Focus weekly and 12 of its journalists. All thirteen have been formally accused of insulting a national symbol. Focus enraged many in debt-crip-

Charges

The charges, which carry a maximum two-year prison sentence, followed a complaint by a group of Greek lawyers.

pled Greece with its February 2010 cover that showed the iconic Venus de Milo statue, draped in a Greek flag and making the lewd gesture next to the headline "Cheats in the European family."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hunt on for Christmas tree thief

Police in a New Hampshire city are looking for the Grinch who stole about 20 Christmas trees from a stand on Thanksgiving Day.

David Gouette of Maggie

\$50 The centre's owner says the trees are worth \$50 each.

D's Garden Center tells The Laconia Daily Sun someone made off with his biggest and best Balsam and Frazier firs on the Thanksgiving holiday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

I'VE SAVED YOU MONEY... NOW I'M MAKING YOU MONEY



Lee Romanov, Consumer Advocate
President, Income Activator

Over the last 15 years I created and sold one of the most successful Internet businesses in Canada, saving thousands of people thousands of dollars.

As you know... there are millions of dollars flowing through the Internet every day. I've taken all of my Internet experience and combined it with a website program I created, **IncomeActivator.com**, to allow you to tap into this money flow.

If you've ever wanted to run your own online business, or if you have a website that's not making the kind of money you thought it would... you'll be interested in what I have to say.

I show you:

1. What people are searching for online.
2. The number of online searches being done for any topic or business.
3. Which online searches are the most valuable and how they can make you money.

Then I give you a website and show you how to:

1. Capture these online searches.
2. Convert your visitor traffic into various revenue streams for yourself.

These are the same techniques I used to make millions of dollars online, and this is the website program I use today.

I understand being broke, and how hard it is to make money and keep things together financially. I've been there, done that, and I'm never doing it again. I share with you what I spent years learning, and have combined that into the **Income Activator website program** allowing you to create your own online income regardless of your computer skills or Internet experience.

Income Activator allows you to begin **your own online business**, or will help you grow and ease your frustrations with your **existing online business**.

You will be given techniques to create revenue streams from writing copy to assembling pictures or videos on your website.

When you understand what to do, and have the Income Activator website program

that allows you to do it, only then will you realize the wealth the Internet can bring you.

It will change your life... it changed mine.

My name is Lee Romanov and I launched one of the first Internet businesses in North America that made millions of dollars, even in the 90s.

After recently selling my business to Torstar (one of the largest media companies in Canada and owner of the Toronto Star) I combined all of my Internet experience along with my **immense frustration of technology** and created a website program called **IncomeActivator.com**.

You may know me as a Consumer Advocate helping people save thousands of dollars off their car insurance rates through the company I created, **InsuranceHotline.com**. It's a rate comparison website providing the lowest quote to drivers from over 30 insurance companies. You may also know me from my Talk TV show on CP24, or from my columns in either the Toronto Star or Globe and Mail.

Income Activator allows anyone, at any level, to own and operate a successful online business exactly like the pros. You can activate multiple revenue streams with the click of a mouse while having complete control over your website. You can put up your own pages, pictures, videos, links, create questionnaires and collect data even if you're a one finger typist; and not at all computer savvy.

You can tap into the millions of dollars flowing through the Internet every day.

If you don't have a product or service to sell, you can simply provide information on a topic you are interested in. **IncomeActivator.com** gives you the 'know how' and website to put this it into action.

You can put up ads that pay you when a visitor clicks on them, sell products or books, or get paid from lead generation, all with the click of a mouse. **Income Activator** works for any business imaginable.

A few weeks back **IncomeActivator.com** helped Pat Foran of CTV with the launch of his website and new book **The Smart Savvy Young Consumer**. Pat would not describe himself as an Internet or computer guy. He's a broadcaster, consumer advocate, and author, who has complete control over his website (www.PatForan.com) and Internet business where you can go right now and buy his books.

I lived through the frustration of trying to get clear answers to Internet questions.

I spent tens of thousands of dollars looking to experts for answers... like how to get search engines to display your website at the top of the search pages. What I found was that each internet expert had only one piece of the puzzle, and none of their solutions came with the technology to put this into action.

I learned... if it's **Not Actionable**... it's **Not Useful**.

I know from experience that an online business can be **Extremely Profitable** and can truly get people out of their financial struggles and allow them to do the things they're interested in and meaningful to their lives.

I am sick and tired of seeing these 'Get Rich Quick' schemes that take people's money and **Do Not Work**.

My heart goes out to business owners who spend good money only to have their websites out of date the day after it goes online. If you can't use your website as a marketing tool every day, it'll never be much more than an expensive brochure. You need to be able to go in and tweak your website regularly to capture new online search traffic, and expand your revenue streams.

If you're running Google AdSense on your website, **Income Activator** has it's own Pay Per Click program where you can keep 100% of the click revenue. It also has a built in Referral Program that tracks and bills for lead generation. You can also send out messages to your email lists, or create an online store that tracks and bills for you. It also has a secured Member's section you can activate.

Income Activator is designed to make you successful, not dependant, like other programs out there.

If you have a website you can easily transfer over your content to begin activating multiple revenue streams I've made it **embarrassingly simple**.

I also learned never take advice from someone that's never made money online.

When creating **Income Activator** I included both my marketing strategies and revenue streams.

Income Activator provides a real opportunity for wealth. It's not a get rich quick scheme.

If what I'm saying is of interest, you need to be proactive as I'm limiting the sale of the **Income Activator** website program to the first 2,100 people at an introductory price. You will then become part of a select group of people sharing their knowledge while growing their online business.

Owning your own online business is fun and exciting... it can make you rich when you know what to do and have the technology to do it. I am making myself available for the next 3 weeks to answer any questions related to online marketing or **Income Activator** specifically. I invite you visit www.IncomeActivator.com now. I am also giving away one **Income Activator** website for Free... all you need to do is tell me your best online marketing story.

What I know now is that.....if it's **Actionable**.....it's **Valuable**!

www.incomeactivator.com

Phone hacking gets to the truth: Ex-tabloid journalist

- More than a dozen journalists, editors arrested in newspaper scandal
- Inquiry to release report that could alter how British media regulated



► Former News of the World journalist Paul McMullan arrives to give evidence to the Leveson inquiry, Britain's media ethics inquiry in London yesterday. McMullan defended the use of phone hacking by journalists.

A former News of the World journalist made a rare, robust defence of phone hacking, telling Britain's media ethics inquiry that eavesdropping on voice mails was a "perfectly acceptable tool" to help journalists uncover stories.

Paul McMullan said yesterday that hacking was common at the now-defunct tabloid, describing how journalists traded the phone details of celebrities. "I think I swapped Sylvester Stallone's mother for David Beckham," he said, going on to recount how he failed to hack into Beckham's voice mails on one occasion because the soccer star unexpectedly answered the phone.

McMullan, who now

"Phone hacking is a perfectly acceptable tool given the sacrifices that we make, if all we are trying to do is get to the truth."

PAUL McMULLAN, FORMER NEWS OF THE WORLD JOURNALIST

runs a pub in England, made headlines earlier this year when he was secretly taped by actor Hugh Grant claiming phone hacking was widespread at the News of the World and other U.K. newspapers.

He repeated that assertion yesterday, adding that the bosses at the News of the World, including former top editors Andy Coulson and Rebekah Brooks,

knew of the practice — a claim both former editors have denied.

"I don't think anyone realized that anyone was committing a crime at the start," McMullan said. "Phone hacking is a perfectly acceptable tool given the sacrifices we make, if all we are trying to do is get to the truth."

Cameron set up the media inquiry in response to the scandal that began with illegal eavesdropping by the News of the World. Murdoch shut down tabloid in July after evidence emerged that it had illegally accessed the mobile phone voice mails of celebrities, politicians and even crime victims in its search for exclusives.

McMullan was one of

three journalists giving evidence to the inquiry after a week in which celebrities and victims of crime described how their lives had been upended by media intrusion.

The other two journalists offered a diametrically opposed assessment, describing stories driven by ideology and propaganda and an industry scarred by bullying and the use of unethical "dark arts."

Ex-tabloid reporter for the Daily Star Richard Peppiatt told the inquiry that "much of tabloid journalism is not truth-seeking primarily. It's ideologically driven and it's impact-driven." Peppiatt has become a critic of underhanded tabloid practices.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mogul Murdoch re-elected

James Murdoch has been re-elected as the chairman of broadcaster BSkyB at the company's annual

meeting.

Protesters had called for Murdoch to resign as a director of BSkyB at its session yesterday because of his links to the phone hacking scandal at News Corp., which owns 39 per cent of the company.

The company says Mur-

doch won the support of 81.24 per cent of shareholder votes, while 18.76 per



► James Murdoch

cent voted against him.

Murdoch has been grilled by British lawmakers. An effort to oust him from the News Corp. board fell short last month, with 35 per cent of the vote at the company's annual meeting.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cyber Monday clicks up for online retailers

A new report says a record number of shoppers made purchases online on the Monday after the Thanksgiving weekend, pushing sales up 33 per cent.

The report from IBM Benchmark says the average order rose 2.6 per cent to \$193.24 US on the day known as Cyber Monday, when retailers amp up online promotions. The data says about 80 per cent of retailers offered online deals. It says traffic peaked at 2:05 p.m. EST.

About 6.6 per cent used a mobile device to shop, up from 2.3 per cent in 2010. The Cyber Monday num-



► The Target website shown on Cyber Monday.

bers point to Americans' growing comfort with using their personal computers, tablets and smartphones to shop.

A clearer picture of how holiday sales are shaping up will come on Thursday, when major retailers report November sales.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOBILE MAPPING

Foodcourt? Google map it

Google's next frontier in digital mapping will span the world's shopping malls and airports.

An upgrade of Google's mobile mapping service released yesterday includes directions within stores, malls, airports and transit centres in the U.S. and Japan.

The initial index only covers a small fraction of the great indoors, but Google Inc. is hoping that will change as more owners and operators of shopping and transportation hubs submit their indoor floor plans.

For now, Google's indoor maps can only be viewed on smartphones and tablet computers that run on the company's Android software. That's still a potentially huge audience because more than 550,000 Android-powered devices are activated each day.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIM release to entice businesses

Shares of Research In Motion were up 7.6 per cent on yesterday after the BlackBerry-maker unveiled plans to offer software to companies and governments that would open up secure networks to mobile devices. The service, BlackBerry Mobile Fusion, will be available in March after a test run with some customers. RIM wants to encourage its corporate customers to stick with its services, even if they gravitate away from the BlackBerry smartphone itself.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

E-book enemy allows classic to go digital

At age 91, Ray Bradbury is making peace with the future he helped predict. The science fiction/fantasy author and longtime enemy of the e-book has finally allowed his classic Fahrenheit 451 to be published in digital format. Simon & Schuster released the electronic edition yesterday at a list price of \$9.99 US. First published in paperback by Ballantine in 1953, Fahrenheit 451 imagines a world in which the appetite for new and faster media leads to a decline in reading and books are banned and burned.

Market moment

TSX


+ 92.29
(11,732.5)

Dollar


+ 0.48¢
(97.06¢ US)

Oil


+ 1.58¢ US
(\$99.79 US)

Natural gas

\$3.62 US
(+ 9.6¢)

Gold

\$1,718.90 US
(+ \$4.40 US)

American Airlines in trouble

► Bankruptcy means flights may be cut, job losses on the horizon ► AMR stockholders will be wiped out

The parent company of American Airlines filed for bankruptcy protection yesterday, seeking relief from crushing debt caused by high fuel prices and expensive labour contracts that its competitors shed years ago.

The company also replaced its CEO. American said its frequent-flier program would be unaffected.

AMR Corp., which owns American, was the only major U.S. airline company that did not file for bankruptcy protection after the Sept. 11 attacks, which caused a deep slump in the industry.

In announcing the bankruptcy filing, AMR said CEO Gerard Arpey, a veteran of the company for almost three decades,

had stepped down and was replaced by Thomas W. Horton, the company president.

In a filing with federal bankruptcy court in New York, AMR said it had \$29.6 billion in debt and \$24.7 billion in assets.

The company will delay the spinoff of its regional airline, American Eagle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

► An employee works at an American Airlines counter at LaGuardia Airport in New York yesterday.



You're one run-5k-before-work-project-managing-meal-planning kind of woman...



So take charge of your bills the way you take charge of your life.



Receive, pay and manage your bills online.
One login. One password. One place.
epost.ca – Because that's more like you.



From anywhere... to anyone

LOW CONSUMER CONFIDENCE EASY TO SWALLOW WITH BACON JAM

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO



friend.

Time to go to school, fool.

Ad Age, the bible of Madison Avenue, released its annual list of 25 hottest brands Monday, and along with obvious choices such as the Chevy Cruze and the HTC smartphone, apparently America can't get enough of Street Skillet Bacon Spread and My Little Pony.

Seattle's Street Skillet's revenue is \$3 million so far this year, mainly on the strength of the sale of bacon jam. It's one of Rachael Ray's fall favourite foods.

"Admit it: never in a million years would you consider bacon jam a million-dollar idea. That's why John Henderson is a successful entrepreneur and you aren't. No jam."

Think you're hip to the hottest consumer trends?

Well, unless you're all over spreadable bacon, My Little Pony, Honey Badger and Pickle Juice, you are nowhere, my

Admit it: never in a million years would you consider bacon jam a million-dollar idea. That's why John Henderson is a successful entrepreneur and you aren't. No jam.

I bet you also let Pickle Juice slip through your fingers, too. Not so for Brandon Brooks, who had the vision and foresight to believe that people will buy anything as long as it's sold as an electrolyte replacement. Brooks is planning to blend Pickle Juice with pomegranate to make it taste better,

which only goes to prove that a spoonful of sugar helps the Pickle Juice go down.

The list includes a bunch of nostalgia items, like Goldfish, those tasteless little crackers that are hot again, even though they're still tasteless. But after bacon jam and Pickle Juice, that's probably a good thing.

Then there's the inexplicable rebirth of My Little Pony, the foremost mania of my daughter when she was a little girl, some 25 years ago. I could never figure out why she would brush Her Little Pony for hours, yet I could never get her to brush the dog. I assume My Little Pony smelled better.

What's really weird is that the latest craze is being driven by an audience of adolescent and adult males called "bronies." They have their own podcast called Bronyville and their own New York convention called BronyCon. The My Little Pony website has 71 million hits.

As weird as all of the above are, topping the list is the Honey Badger, which started as a bit player in a National Geographic special and has morphed into the Tasmanian Devil of the 21st century. He's so bad, he eats venom-spitting cobras alive and braves thousands of bee stings to eat their larvae. He's now the spokesvermin for Wonderful Pistachios, which he cracks by whacking them with a snake.

Don't believe me. Check him out on YouTube, where he has 23 million hits, but he don't care.

He's just bad.

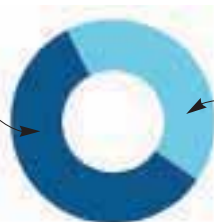
Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsayin



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should schools become Wi-Fi hotspots?

58%
NO. NOT
ENOUGH
RESEARCH ON
SAFETY HAS BEEN
DONE



42%
YES. IT'S THE
WAY OF THE
FUTURE

Daily Zoom

They call it 'Kitten Love'



Sharing a tender tiger moment

USA. "The little girl was so excited that she started clapping," says photographer Dyrk Daniels, who captured this moment at the Cougar Mountain Zoo in Issaquah, Wash. Golden Bengal tiger Taj walked to the glass, put his right paw up against it where the girl's hand was and bowed his head. ● **MWN**



"During my 27 years of working with tigers, I have never seen anything like it before."

RON TILSON, INTERNATIONAL TIGER EXPERT, MINNESOTA ZOO

Instead of 'Ahh!' it was 'Aww!'

RECOLLECTION. Daniels, 47, describes this chance occurrence at the zoo, saying he didn't expect such tenderness from the predatory kitty. "I noticed that Taj had taken an interest in the girl and was heading towards her. I thought for certain that the little girl would need therapy after the encounter." ● **MWN**

In the cat's eyes, child is a 'snack'

INSTINCT. This meeting between baby and 168 kg cat may seem cute, but typical human-tiger get-togethers are no fun, specialist Ron Tilson says. "Seeing a young child elicits a tiger's predatory instinct. It begins to follow the child closely, hoping to get a 'snack.' When it gets a chance, it will take it!" ● **MWN**

DYRK DANIELS/SOLENT NEWS/REX FEATURES

'They want to see naked bodies'

► Helen Mirren got it right when she said 'flesh sells' ► Here's to the many actors who have gone without a stitch — all in the name of art, of course

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONWS.CA



A website called Mr. Skin notes that Helen Mirren is the only celebrity to appear nude on screen in five different decades.

The Oscar winner became the first British actress to appear in the buff in a mainstream film in 1969, when she was just 24 years old.

On her revealing scene in *Age of Consent* she said, "Flesh sells. People don't want to see pictures of churches. They want to see naked bodies."

Since then Mirren has doffed her clothes several more times, and become one of the most acclaimed actresses of her age.

Appearing nude doesn't appear to have hurt her career with the public or the Academy, which is proba-

"It really makes me laugh in this day and age that anyone is troubled by seeing any part of the human body."

JUDD APATOW



► Michael Fassbender plays a sex addict in *Shame*. And yes, we get to see his very naked body.

bly makes Michael Fassbender, the very naked star of this weekend's Oscar contender *Shame*, very happy.

In a performance that bares not only his body but his soul as well, Fassbender might become the most unclothed star to ever be nominated for Best Actor.

But he wouldn't be the first star to go naked as a jaybird for their craft and take home Oscar gold.

Kate Winslet says there was so much nudity in *The*

Reader, which earned her an Oscar, because the story required it. But, she added in the same interview, she thinks people might be tired of looking at her body.

The first nude film scenes happened almost 100 years before Fassbender drop trou.

In 1915's *Inspiration* an actress named Audrey Munson undressed and for the next 20 years stars regularly exposed their hidden talents.

Then came the Hays

Code, which banned nudity from the major studios well into the 1960s.

One of the first big stars to break the code was Jayne Mansfield, whose topless role in *Promises! Promises!* landed her on the Top 10 list of Box Office Attractions for 1963.

Since then many A-listers have taken it off for their art.

Recently both Amanda Seyfried and Julianne Moore stripped in *Chloe*. Anne Hathaway and Michelle Williams wore

their birthday suits in *Love and Other Drugs* and *Blue Valentine* respectively.

But it's not just women exposing themselves.

Gerard Butler let it all hang out in *Mrs. Brown and Mr. Green* and Daniel Craig is buck naked in *Love is the Devil*.

Producer Judd Apatow promises more male nudity in his films.

"It really makes me laugh in this day and age that anyone is troubled by seeing any part of the human body."

CHARLES SYKES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scene in brief



A lawsuit filed by owners of a minor league baseball team claims an Illinois city violated its contract and misled the team about the prospect of building a ballpark. Actor Kevin Costner of *Field of Dreams* is among the owners of the Lake County Fielders. They've been battling the city of Zion in northeastern Illinois for months over the team's collapse this year. Grand Slam Sports and Entertainment's lawsuit filed last week seeks \$10.7 million in damages. The lawsuit names Zion Mayor Lane Harrison and others. Zion City lawyer Scott Puma has declined to comment on the litigation. Lawyer Stephen Boulton represents the team owners. He says they acted in good faith and were caught up in politics and selfish interests.

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The Big Bang Theory star Jim Parsons aims for a Broadway return in *Harvey*

Flicks tie for prize at Gotham gala

- For the first time in history, Gotham Independent Film Awards find themselves 'stuck' over top prize
- The Tree of Life, Beginners both take home best feature

Award season kicked off with a tie for best feature at the annual Gotham Independent Film Awards as Terrence Malick's highly imaginative *The Tree of Life* shared the night's high honour with Mike Mills' flashback comedy, *Beginners*. Presenter Tilda Swinton introduced the nominees, but before opening the envelope to reveal the winner, deferred to a prerecorded message on the venue's large video screens.

The unprecedented ruling was then announced by jury member Natalie Portman, who explained that her peers were faced with the dilemma of being stuck when it came to selecting a winner, so they made a bold and independent decision and chose to honour both.

Swinton then read off

the winners' names and presented the award.

The Tree of Life, starring Brad Pitt and Sean Penn, won the Palm d'Or at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival. *Beginners* was released last year and stars Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer.

Other winners included Felicity Jones for breakthrough actor in *Like Crazy*, the cast of *Beginners* for ensemble cast and *Scenes of a Crime* for best film not playing at a theatre near you. The audience award went to *Girlfriend*, a film about a young man with Down syndrome who has a crush on a troubled single mother.

Hosted by Edie Falco and Oliver Platt, the presenters were mostly darlings of the independent film world like Stanley Tucci, Melissa

Leo, actress and directorial nominee Vera Farmiga and Swinton.

"Independent film is my amniotic fluid. It's like the sea I swim in," Swinton said when she arrived.

This year's Gotham tributes went to director David Cronenberg, film executive Tom Rothman, actor Gary Oldman and actress Charlize Theron.

Actor-comedian Patton Oswalt introduced Theron. The pair star in the upcoming dark comedy "Young Adult," written by Diablo Cody and directed by Jason Reitman.

The Gotham Independent Film Awards are presented by the Independent Feature Project, the largest organization in the United States committed to independent film.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Artist, Take Shelter lead Spirit Award noms

The silent movie *The Artist* and doomsday drama *Take Shelter* lead the Spirit Awards honouring independent films with five nominations each. Other nominees include *50/50*; *Drive*; *Beginners* and *The Descendants*.

Lead actor nominees are Jean Dujardin, *The Artist*; Michael Shannon, *Take Shelter*; Ryan Gosling, *Drive*; Demian Bichir, *A Better Life*; and Woody Harrelson, *Rampart*. Up for lead actress are Lauren Ambrose, *Think of Me*; Rachel Harris, *Natural Selection*; Adepero Oduye, *Pariah*; Elizabeth Olsen, *Martha Marcy May Marlene*; and Michelle Williams, *My Week with Marilyn*. For more information about nominees visit spiritawards.com

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Actor Patton Oswalt, left, actress Charlize Theron and director Jason Reitman attend the IFP's 21st Annual Gotham Independent Film Awards at Cipriani Wall Street on Monday in New York.

Dragon Tattoo film, a family affair

- The star of Swedish movie series reveals daughter's role in U.S. remake that features Daniel Craig as star

The star of Sweden's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie says his daughter appears in the upcoming U.S. remake with the actor who takes on his role in the crime drama: Daniel Craig.

Michael Nyqvist and Craig both play investigative journalist Mikael Blomkvist in the films based on the popular crime trilogy from Swedish author Stieg Larsson.

Sweden's Millennium television series, which includes adaptations of Larsson's other books in the series — *The Girl Who Played with Fire* and *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets' Nest* — just won the 2011 International Emmy for best TV miniseries.

Swedish-born Nyqvist said he was curious to see the American version because he says David Fincher "is such a good director



► Michael Nyqvist

and Craig is a good actor," and because his 21-year-old daughter, Ellen, is an extra in the film "by coincidence."

The film has a scene shot in a Stockholm, Sweden, cafe where his daughter, a college student, was working. She landed a walk-on role that included pouring coffee

for Craig, who has played James Bond.

According to Nyqvist, while she was pouring she turned to Craig and asked, "Do you know who my dad is?"

The film's distributor, Columbia Pictures, confirms Ellen Nyqvist appears in one scene with Craig.

The elder Nyqvist, who is a huge star in Sweden, plays the villain Hendricks in the upcoming, *Mission Impossible: The Ghost Protocol* starring Tom Cruise. The latest *Mission: Impossible* and *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* open Dec. 21.

Nyqvist says he has also just wrapped the film *Disconnect* with fellow Swede Alexander Skarsgård who, coincidentally, has a supporting role in the upcoming "Dragon Tattoo" film.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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The photos in picture are from previous editions of Photo Challenge.

More baby mama drama for Biebs

- Man steps forward claiming to be the father of Mariah Yeater's child
- Robbie Powell was recently charged with drug possession, burglary

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA



Before the illustrious Mariah Yeater (that's her booking photo, there) accused Justin Bieber of fathering her child, the last time I wrote about a situation so low-rent was during the Levi Johnston baby daddy drama with the Palins.

The latest on the possible Biebs baby? While the

17-year-old pop star maintains he isn't the father of Yeater's infant son, the man who does claim to be, Robbie Powell, was arrested over the weekend in San Diego, according to Hollyscoop.

The 23-year-old was charged with possession of methamphetamines and drug paraphernalia, as well as three charges of commercial burglary. He's currently being held on \$7,000 bail.

Sources say Powell is looking to go public with his claims that Yeater made up the story about Bieber fathering her child, but he



► Mariah Yeater

hasn't settled on a media outlet yet.

After all of this, I hope

that Bieber is the father just so that poor baby might have a chance at life.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Celebrity tweets



New Yorkers, I love how stylish and beautiful you all are. Have lunch with me?



@NathanFillion

@kerrywashington

I'm completely in love... I've never felt this way before. Ribbon & Cimarron have stolen my heart... They're horses. :)



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3 life

Travel in brief



A pair of wilderness tour operators in Yukon and a geology-themed park in New Brunswick have won 2011 Canadian Tourism Awards. Nahanni River Adventures and Canadian River Expeditions, both based in Whitehorse, won the award for sustainable tourism.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Caribbean tourist operators expect more visitors, brace for drop in spending

Saving the 'Old Square'

► A commission has been working since the 1930s to preserve New Orleans' French Quarter

On a muggy autumn New Orleans morning in the French Quarter, away from bawdy Bourbon Street, Natchez residents sat on their stoops drinking rich cafe au lait, reading the newspaper, or watching the passing traffic.

Replace the cars with horses and carriages and the scene could well be from a couple of hundred years ago.

The old city remains vital with a steady mix of residents and small businesses mostly thanks to the Vieux Carre Commission, which regulates changes to the buildings in the small section of New Orleans near the Mississippi River. The commission has control over every part of a building's exterior.

A rotting sill in the back of the house cannot be replaced without permission. A wall can't be painted or a window removed or a roof changed without permission. It's a sore point for some, but the results of such strict control are noticeable.

When the commission was formed during the Great Depression, the 85-square-block Quarter that was laid out by French settlers in



► The Vieux Carre Commission regulates all changes — big and small — to the exterior of buildings in the French Quarter.

Vieux Carre

Commission

► Nine volunteer members and a staff of five make up the commission. The volunteers are appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council.

1718 had become a collection of derelict buildings. The idea of preserving an entire area was novel.

"What was considered ahead of time was that up until then American preservation was preservation of indi-

vidual structures, Mount Vernon for instance," said Walter Gaillas, with the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

"Back then, nobody thought of it as, 'Gee, maybe there is another way to preserve a whole community.' Now there are hundreds of commissions like that around the country."

The French Quarter, also known as the Vieux Carre (Old Square) as it was once called, had fallen on hard times by 1936. Once-grand townhouses were tenements, and city officials were seriously considering tearing down

the majestic old buildings that frame Jackson Square — Upper Pontalba and the Cabildo — where the Louisiana Purchase was signed in 1803.

Then along came the Vieux Carre Commission, dedicated to preservation while keeping the area a functioning part of the community.

"The commission is not about keeping things

looking pretty but addressing what's appropriate to character and quality of all the parts that make up this neighbourhood," said Vieux Carre Commission director Lary Hesdorffer.

"We have the benefit of not being frozen in time."

The idea, Hesdorffer said, is not to return the French Quarter — which is a real neighbourhood with people living there and real businesses operating on its streets — to what it was when it was founded, but to keep the historical presence this generation inherited.

"We have many different styles in the French Quarter from different eras," Hesdorffer said.

"We're now treasuring buildings that have been renovated along the way."

As an example, Hesdorffer points to the famous "lace" iron work on French Quarter balconies, which came in the

1800s, replacing the original plain ironwork.

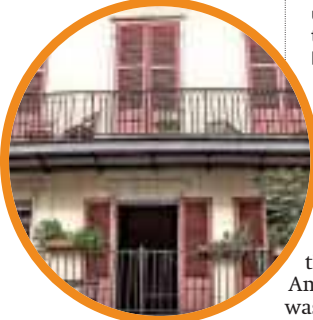
"That sort of layering thing is what makes this historic district particularly

rich because we represent some things that date to the colonial period," he said.

"But not many are in pure form."

"Over the years, they've been updated and changed."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Go nuts for the holidays

► Chili Spiced Nuts serve number of purposes ► Offer them as a snack or give them as gifts

HOLIDAY HELPER

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONOVS.CA



With less than one month until Christmas, the holiday season is in full swing. Having said that, we all know how stressful this time of the year can be, but there are ways to prepare.

Each week, we'll provide you with a great make-ahead recipe that you can make and share as a hostess gift or serve up as an entertaining idea for your holiday get-together.

Chili Spiced Nuts

These nuts are perfect to serve up in a little bowl for fingers to dip into while enjoying drinks.

You can also pack them up in little gift bags or tins for an easy hostess gift.

Lastly, the Chili Spiced Nuts will keep at room temperature for about three weeks in a tin or bag.

Preparation:

1 In large bowl, toss almonds, walnut halves and pistachios with oil, chili powder, cumin, oregano, paprika, salt and pepper until well coated.

2 Spread onto parchment paper lined baking sheet and roast in 350 F (180 C) oven for about 15 minutes or until golden brown and fragrant. Remove from oven and

Holiday prep

► We're here to help Every Wednesday until Christmas, Metro's Emily Richards will provide you tips to make the holiday whirlwind a bit less stressful. Check out the next edition of Holiday Helper on Wednesday, Dec. 7.

stir in pepitas. Let cool completely in baking sheet on cooling rack.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) whole unblanched almonds
- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) walnut halves
- 1 cup (250 mL) shelled pistachios
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) extra virgin or canola oil
- 2 tsp (10 mL) chili powder

- 1 tsp (5 mL) ground cumin
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) smoked sweet paprika
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) roasted pepitas (green pumpkin seeds)



► This recipe makes about 5 cups (1.25 L).

Drink of the week

Almond Apple-tini

Over the years, the martini has become one of the best-known alcoholic beverages. But this Almond Apple-tini offers a non-alcoholic twist on the classic.

- 1 oz (2 tbsp) almond beverage
- 2 oz (1/4 cup) apple juice
- Splash caramel syrup
- Dash fresh lemon juice
- 1 apple slice

In a martini shaker, combine almond beverage, apple juice, caramel syrup and lemon juice. Shake vigorously and serve in a martini glass. Garnish with an apple slice. **ALMONDFRESH.COM**



Brave the chillier days ahead

► Easy Clam Chowder goes from stove to table in less than 30 minutes

Preparation:

1 In a large saucepan, melt butter over medium heat; add celery and onion and sauté for 2 to

3 minutes to soften.

2 Add milk; bring to a boil. Reduce heat and stir in potatoes. Continue cooking, stirring

constantly, for 2 to 3 minutes or until slightly thickened.

3 Add clams with liquid, Worcestershire sauce,

salt and hot pepper sauce; simmer for 5 to 8 minutes, stirring occasionally, to blend flavours.

Ingredients:

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) each diced celery and onion
- 625 ml (2 1/2 cups) milk
- 250 ml (1 cup) instant mashed potatoes

- 2 cans (each 142 g) baby clams (undrained)
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) Worcestershire sauce
- 3 ml (3/4 tsp) salt
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) hot pepper sauce
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) fresh parsley

4 Serve garnished with parsley, if desired. **THE**

CANADIAN PRESS/ CLOVER LEAF

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Say my name, say my name

► A recruitment expert offers advice for those hoping to be remembered ► Sales and marketing students take note



**CHELSEA
NEWTON**
TALENTEGG.CA

The competition on campus between employers is getting hot as the economy picks up and companies' hiring numbers increase.

A shift is starting, where students will have more power as the number of jobs available increases; however, we aren't quite there yet.

As a student, it is important to play a lead role in choosing your first job out of school and selling yourself to your employer(s) of choice.

Your personal brand — online

Your online personality should mirror how you

"Show you spent some time researching my company online, even talking to past interns or employees, and understanding the culture."

**CHELSEA NEWTON,
DIRECTOR OF TALENT ACQUISITION
AT MOSAIC SALES SOLUTIONS**

come across in person.

Ensure that, if your future employer seeks you out on LinkedIn, Twitter, or Facebook, there is consistency in the things you say you are knowledgeable about or roles you played in extra-curricular activities.

Things like LinkedIn recommendations are

very valuable, especially with LinkedIn launching a new student profile option.

Often future employers will perform a social media search on their top candidates — think of this as a reference check.

Make sure that you hide information that future employers don't need to see (e.g., Facebook photos) and remember that social media is permanent.

Your personal brand — in person

For in-person events, network and showcase your personality as well as your interests and skills.

When I interview for entry-level marketing roles, I look more for a



► Does your authentic persona match the one you see on the screen in front of you?

strong personal impression than wide sales/marketing experience — I can teach you how to be successful, but I can't teach

you how to think critically or have personal credibility.

I want you to highlight your interests, where you think the industry is going, recent highlights at my specific company, and why you believe you fit the company culture.

Show you spent some time researching my company online, even talking to past interns or employees, and understanding our culture.

Don't treat every networking session, interview or online application the same. Most recruiters are very open to telling you the unique parts of their company, so talk to them and ask for a follow-up prep call prior to an in-

terview.

If you don't meet a recruiter on campus, reach out to them via LinkedIn. Recruiters will highlight great candidates' applications if you wow them.

Consider this reach-out like dating — you only have one opportunity to make that perfect impression that might lead to a relationship (or in this case, a fantastic career)!

CHELSEA NEWTON IS THE DIRECTOR OF TALENT ACQUISITION AT MOSAIC SALES SOLUTIONS. HER EXPERTISE IS IN HIRING YOUNG ADULTS AND SHE HAS BUILT CAMPUS RECRUITING PROGRAMS IN OVER 12 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.

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Start with the man in the mirror

Do a branding exercise to understand your unique value to a future employer. Think about how you present yourself both in person at company campus recruiting events or interviews, and in online spaces.

Things you should evaluate include:

- How you dress
- The language you use
- How you can showcase specific accomplishments
- How you come across to employers — do you seem credible/real?

Jaguars get a reboot

► Coach fired, team sold after 2-8 start ► New owner expected to keep team in Jacksonville

The Jacksonville Jaguars are headed in a completely new direction.

And Los Angeles doesn't appear to be the destination.

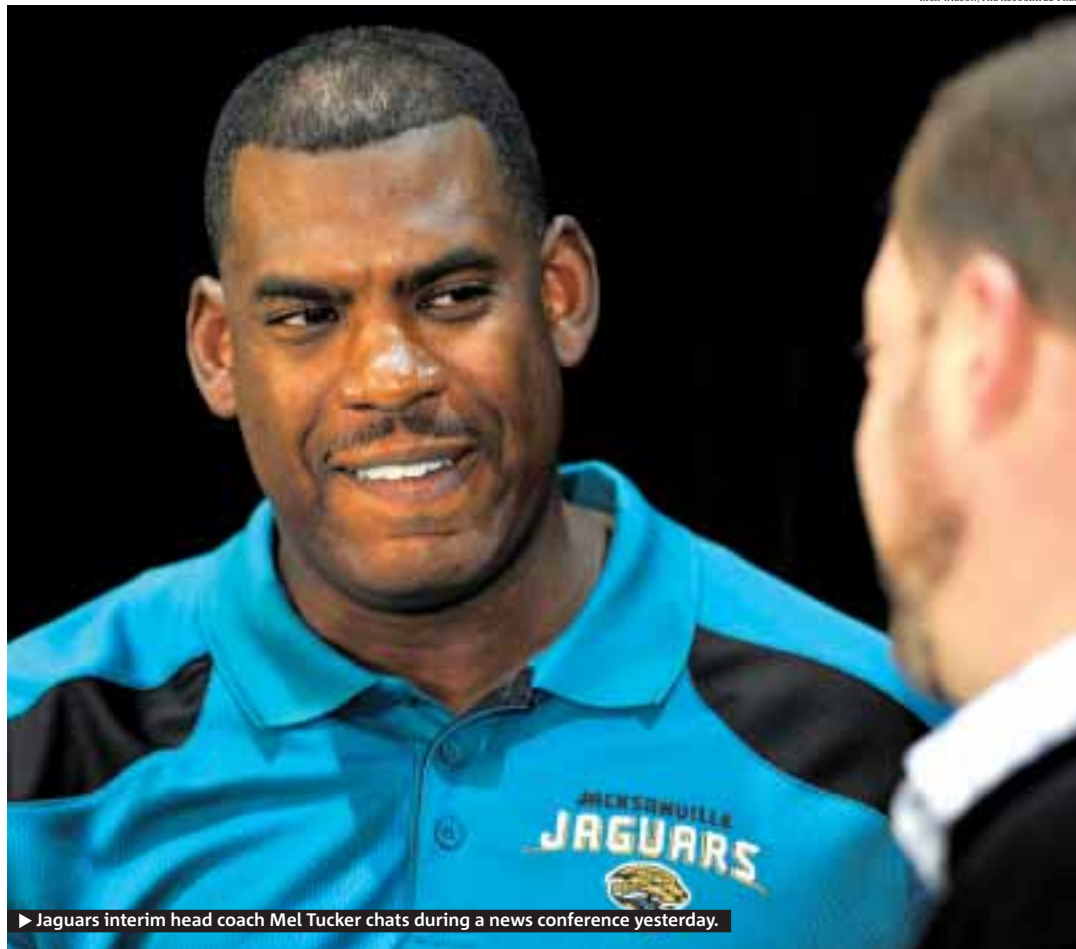
Team owner Wayne Weaver fired longtime coach Jack Del Rio yesterday after a 3-8 start and agreed to sell the Jaguars to Illinois businessman Shahid Khan. Weaver named defensive co-ordinator Mel Tucker the interim coach and gave general manager Gene Smith a three-year contract extension, putting him in charge of the coaching search.

The moves marked the most significant changes for the small-market franchise since its inception in 1993.

"It's the right thing at the right time and for the right reasons," Weaver said. "We deserve better; the community deserves better. We've been very average over the last few years. I take responsibility for a lot of that, making mistakes in some personnel things, but look positive ahead that this team is not far away from being a very competitive football team."

Forbes reported the sale to be worth \$760 million US.

Weaver, who will turn 77 in January, had been looking for an "exit strategy" for years, wanting to find someone to buy the team and keep it in Jacksonville. He had tears in his eyes several times as he announced his impending departure.



► Jaguars interim head coach Mel Tucker chats during a news conference yesterday.

parture.

"It's a little bittersweet, honestly, that it came as soon as it did," Weaver said. "But the main motivation for the exit strategy was to find someone that has the same passion about the NFL, had the same passion

about football in Jacksonville as we do, and I found that person."

Khan, 61, believes he is the right choice, too.

"Wayne's legacy will be lasting, and I will always be grateful for Wayne's trust and confidence in my com-

mitment to the Jaguars, the NFL and the people of the Jacksonville community," Khan said in a statement.

Born in Pakistan, Khan left home at age 16 to attend the University of Illinois. He graduated in 1971, a year after he started

working for Flex-N-Gate Corp. in Urbana, Ill. He purchased the company in 1980. Today, Flex-N-Gate is a major manufacturer of bumper systems for pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles built in North America. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Suh appeals suspension

Ndamukong Suh is going back to the NFL, this time hoping for some leniency.

The league suspended Detroit's All-Pro defensive tackle without pay for two games yesterday, punishing the second-year player for stomping on a Green Bay Packers offensive lineman after the whistle last week. Suh promptly appealed his suspension, hoping his action won't keep him away from his

playoff-hopeful teammates when they need him most.

The cost

If Suh doesn't win the appeal, he won't play against the Saints or in the Dec. 11 home game against Minnesota. He would return Dec. 12 ahead of a road game against Oakland.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said Suh's hearing will be with Art Shell, an appointed appeal officer who is paid by the league and NFLPA. As of late yesterday afternoon, the hearing hadn't been scheduled, but the league has said it will expedite the procedure to give Suh and the Lions an answer before Sunday's game at New Orleans.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

QB CHANGE

Colts shake things up

Curtis Painter and Larry Coyer are out in Indianapolis, and it could be just the start of the changes for the winless Colts.

Coach Jim Caldwell broke up a normally quiet Tuesday by announcing that Coyer had been

fired as defensive co-ordinator and that Dan Orlovsky would replace Painter at quarterback when the Colts play at New England on Sunday. Longtime linebackers coach Mike Murphy will replace Coyer.

The moves come in the midst of a shocking 0-11 season, Indianapolis' worst start since 1986, and two days after Indy may have lost its last chance at a victory.

"It's not an easy day," Caldwell said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4
sports

Sports in brief



Don't expect Maple Leafs forward Phil Kessel to be selected last at this season's NHL all-star game fantasy draft.

Kessel, who leads the league with 16 goals and 31 points this season, has taken the overall lead in fan balloting for the Jan. 29 showcase game at Scotiabank Place in Ottawa.

His total of 258,446 votes moved him past Senators defenceman Erik Karlsson, who leads all blue-liners with 256,839 votes in results released yesterday by the NHL. Ottawa forward Daniel Alfredsson was third overall (233,868) and teammate Jason Spezza was fifth overall (209,455).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leafs goalie proving his critics wrong

Jonas Gustavsson has seemingly had an answer for everything opponents have thrown at him over the past week or two. In doing so, the Toronto Maple Leafs goalie is delivering a message to his critics.

Written off by many early in the season, the man known as "The Monster" takes a personal four-game win streak into tonight's clash with Boston.

Gustavsson has managed to remain even-keeled through a turbulent first couple seasons in the NHL by avoiding most of what is said or written about him. But he knows there are those who doubt him.

"It's a big hockey market and there's always things going around," he said yesterday after practice. "I mean if there's no story, there has to be a story. I guess the goalie's always in the spotlight too."

"Either you're the hero or the guy that everyone's blaming."

He's been playing the hero role in the Leafs' surprising climb to the upper reaches of the Eastern Conference despite missing

"Right now we're playing yo-yo with these guys. One game we're ahead of them, the next game we're behind them."

BRUINS COACH CLAUDE JULIEN ON JOSTLING WITH THE LEAFS FOR THE NORTHEAST DIVISION LEAD

No. 1 goalie James Reimer to concussion-like symptoms for more than a month.

Initially, third-stringer Ben Scrivens was given the bulk of the work in Reimer's absence, prompting many to suggest Gustavsson's days could be numbered. But the Swede has bounced back — stopping 119 of 126 shots in his last four starts.

"When this hit, when (Scrivens) kind of had a few games, a lesser man could have really taken it in a bad way," said Reimer. "I know he went out in practice and just kept working hard and now he's playing phenomenal. I didn't really doubt that he could do it and sure enough,

here he is.

"I'm really happy for the success he's had."

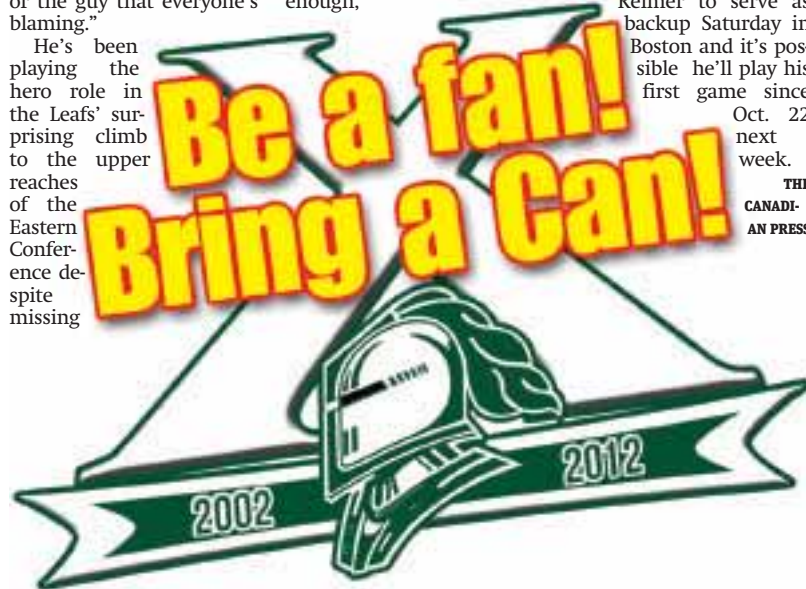
Added defenceman Carl Gunnarsson: "All I saw was him coming down and working his ass off every day. He's been doing well in practice and I think he's been doing good in the games he's played too."

Gustavsson could be under siege with back-to-back games looming against the red-hot Bruins who have outscored the Leafs 13-2 combined in two games so far this season.

The Monster has a solid 8-4-0 record but is poised to get pushed to the background with Reimer nearing a return. Coach Ron

Wilson expects Reimer to serve as backup Saturday in Boston and it's possible he'll play his first game since Oct. 22 next week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



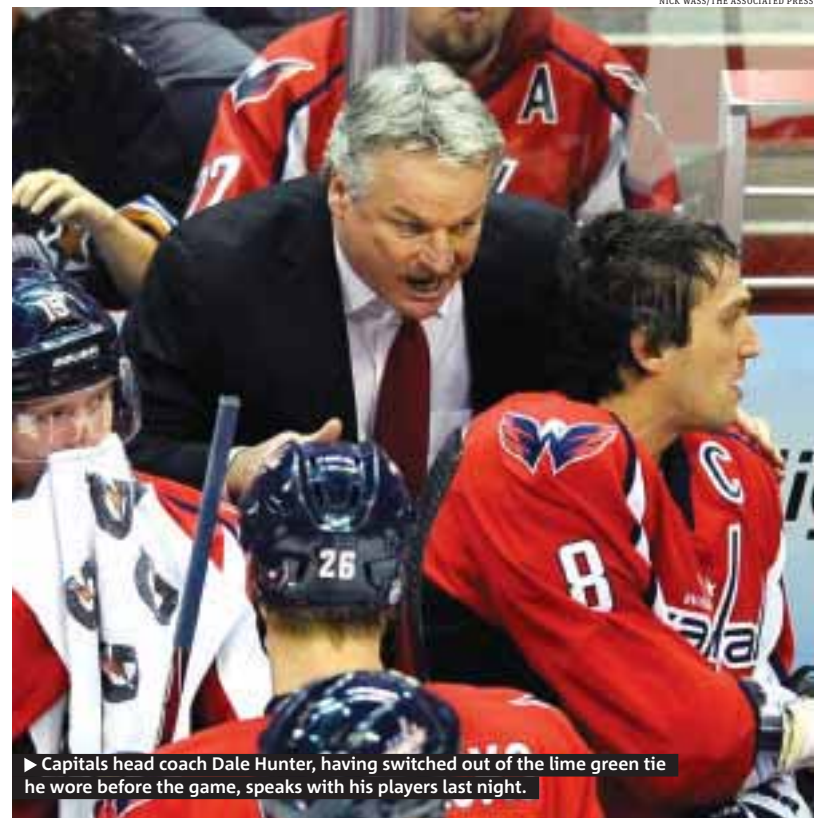
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► Capitals head coach Dale Hunter, having switched out of the lime green tie he wore before the game, speaks with his players last night.

'I definitely have butterflies going'

► Big night for Hunter as he debuts as an NHL coach

Dale Hunter made his Washington Capitals coaching debut in a blue suit — and a lime green tie with blue and white diagonal stripes.

He had to.

"It's the only one I got," he said.

Hunter was behind the bench on the NHL level for the first time last night as the Capitals hosted the St. Louis Blues. He was tabbed as the replacement for Bruce Boudreau, who was fired Monday.

"I definitely have butterflies going," Hunter said before the game. "It's like the first game when you get traded."

Hunter played 19 seasons in the NHL and spent the past 11 years coaching the London Knights of the Ontario Hockey League, where he wore the same suit every game. He said he plans to continue the ritual with the Capitals.

"I only have to wear it two hours and a half every

Defeat

Dale Hunter's NHL coaching career began with a thud last night as Alex Ovechkin and the Washington Capitals struggled again in a 2-1 loss to the St. Louis Blues.

game," he said.

So how often does he go to the dry cleaners?

"I go after every game," he said with a laugh, "unless it's back-to-back."

But surely he must have another tie, something besides the lime green?

"Nope," he said. "Same one."

In contrast to his noted intensity as a player — Hunter ranks second all time in NHL history in penalty minutes — Hunter's meeting with reporters two hours prior to faceoff turned into a pretty good stand-up routine.

Asked what has sur-

prised him the most in the two days he's held the job, he looked back at the throng and said: "You guys."

"There used to be three people here," said Hunter, recalling the sometimes scant media attention the team received when he played here from 1987-99.

"That's good for the area. That's how much the Caps have won, and fans are following them and you guys are following them. That's awesome."

Expect Hunter to be demanding when it counts as he handles the reins of a team that was failing to meet high expectations.

"I have as a player been through some coaching changes, and it does give you a lift," he said. "It's all new. You've got a clean slate again. ... I'm an emotional guy. We're in the trenches together, the coaches and the players, and it's up to us to win."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Motor

The electrical portion of the powertrain consists of the usual 60-kilowatt (80-horsepower) motor that's energized by a lithium-ion battery pack located beneath the cargo floor. That's the same spot as the standard Prius's nickel-metal-hybrid batteries. The advantage of lithium-ion technology is that it's lighter, more energy efficient and holds a charge for longer periods.

As with all Prius models, power is directed to the front wheels via a continuously variable transmission.

Charging

Beyond operating for a modest distance on electric power, the PHV can be replenished in a relatively quick 2.5-to-three hours using 120-volt household current. Toyota provides a 4.5-metre-long cable that plugs into a connection hidden behind a spring-loaded door on the passenger-side rear quarter panel. Buyers have the option of a 240-volt outlet that cuts charging time to 1.5 hours, however they will have to opt for the "Level 2" home charging station available through Toyota dealers.

Fuel efficiency

As for the all-important question of fuel consumption, Toyota claims the PHV earns the equivalent of 1.75 l/100 km on electric power alone (presumably based on typical power costs) and about 3.7 l/100 km when functioning in hybrid mode, compared with 3.7 city and 4.0 highway for a standard Prius.



► It looks like any other Prius because it is like any other Prius, just with more battery power for extended electric-only use.

This Prius has a bit more spark



MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

The Prius is the world's most successful gasoline-electric hybrid brand with more than two million copies sold since its 1997 launch. The fuel-frugal Toyota celebrates its 15th anniversary by adding a

wagon to the lineup as well as the Plug-in Hybrid, or PHV, which arrives in early 2012.

Although similar to a regular Prius, the PHV has been engineered to offer some advantages of a pure electric vehicle as well as the convenience of a typical hybrid. The result should

be significantly improved city fuel economy. For short hops, or gridlocked commuter traffic, the PHV can be driven for up to about 25 kilometres at speeds up to 100 km/h in driver-selectable electric mode. But when a heavier foot on the accelerator is called for and/or the batteries wear

down, the 98-horsepower 1.8-litre gas engine instantly kicks in and both power systems provide the necessary thrust, the same as a regular Prius model. The batteries can also be partially replenished from energy captured through braking. Determining if the PHV is worth the extra cost will

ultimately depend on your particular driving habits, such as distance travelled and your ability to baby the throttle around town. For most people, the popular standard Prius will do just fine, while the PHV takes conserving gas and preserving the environment to a whole new level.

5 drive

By comparison

Nissan Leaf

Base price: \$40,000
If you want electric, then just go for it. Downside is long charge time.

Mitsubishi i

Base price: \$34,500
Short hops only; Prius is more car that does more and costs more, too.

Chevrolet Volt

Base price: \$43,000
Gas generator maintains electric motor's function when batteries run low.

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Test drive. 2012 Acura TL



► Metro Toronto's Managing Editor, Tarin Elbert, poses next to a 2012 Acura TL Elite in front of the newspaper's office. The car boasts a 3.7-litre V-6 engine with 305 horsepower. You can bet Tarin made use of most of those ponies.

DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO

Plenty of horsepower to play with

Metro's Tarin Elbert test drove this fully-loaded 2012 Acura TL for a week and said he hasn't had this much fun behind the wheel since he rubbered city roads in his vintage '67 Mustang Fastback. The Acura hugs the road like a lover, surges out of corners like a dead-eyed hawk in full-flight, and the "blind-spot" indicators make weaving in and out of traffic a Sunday drive, he said. ●METRO

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*Ratings of "Good" are the highest rating awarded for 40-mph frontal offset, 31-mph side-impact and 20-mph rear-impact crash tests conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) (www.iihs.org). A "Good" rating obtained in all three crash tests plus a "Good" rating in new roof strength testing and the availability of Electronic Stability Control (ESC) (Vehicle Dynamics Control) achieves a 2011 Top Safety Pick. *Based on ALG's 2011 Residual Value Award for Best Mainstream Brand. *MSRP of \$25,995 on 2012 Forester 2.5X (CJ1 X0). Lease for \$329 a month for 24 months with \$2,495 down. 2.9% lease rate. \$2,898.45 due at signing. Option to purchase at end of lease is \$18,795. Advertised pricing consists of MSRP plus charges for Freight/PDI (\$1,595), Air Tax (\$100), Tire Stewardship Levy (\$29.20), OMVIC Fee (\$5), Dealer Admin (\$199), Freight/PDI charge includes a full tank of gas. Taxes, licence, registration and insurance are extra. \$0 security deposit. Model shown: 2011 Forester 2.5X Convenience Package (BJ2 CP). MSRP of \$28,095. Dealers may sell or lease for less or may have to order or trade. Offers applicable on approved credit at participating dealers only. Lease based on a maximum of 24,000 km per year, with excess charged at \$0.10/km. Leasing and financing programs available through Subaru Financial Services by TCCI. Other lease and finance rates and terms available; down payment or equivalent trade-in may be required. Vehicle shown solely for purposes of illustration, and may not be equipped exactly as shown. Offers available until November 30, 2011. See your local Subaru dealer for complete program details.

DON'T LET ADMINISTRATION FEES SURPRISE YOU

AUTO PILOT



MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE
@METRONEWS.CA

The thing I most like about getting a bill from a utility company is discovering what new and exciting charges they've managed to come up with since my last bill.

I particularly enjoyed first seeing the one called "customer charge" — so ambiguous, so all encompassing, so delightful.

Some retailers in the car industry are equally creative.

Both new and used car dealerships sometimes tack on an Administration Fee or a Documentation Fee. Either way, this is a charge initiated by each specific dealership (new or used) and can run anywhere from \$295 to \$595 — and beyond.

Most used car dealerships will charge this fee, but not all new-car dealerships. In fact, most automakers try to police this — with mixed results. This creates the situation where dealerships in the same city, selling the same brands, might have differ-



► As soon as you step foot on a new or used car lot, ask about any fees that will be tacked on to the vehicle's price.

ent "admin" fee policies.

One sure thing about admin fees — buyers hate them.

Extra fees are one thing, but what infuriates customers even more are when these fees are only brought up during the paperwork stage.

"When you sit down and see that it has been added to your last negotiated price, you can always step back from the table," says

Carl Compton, executive director and registrar of OMVIC.

"If you feel it's not worth it, or not comfortable with it, restart the negotiations."

The Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council (OMVIC) is the entity that enforces Ontario's Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. Each province has its own council and respective "dealers act."

Compton notes that the

council is often asked to weigh in on the legitimacy of these admin or documentation fees.

"The only thing we've been able to say is that they are almost a tradition in the industry, for dealers to charge customers for some of the overhead fees they have to deal with. You, as a consumer, should expect that it would probably be tacked on. There is nothing mandatory about it...

There is nothing illegal about charging admin fees, but there is nothing from preventing you from negotiating them out as well."

British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec all have legislation that requires dealers and/or dealer groups to disclose any mandatory fees — including admin fees — in their advertised prices.

So the take-away here, is to be aware of them right

from the get go.

As soon as you step foot on a new or used car lot, ask about any fees that will be tacked on to the vehicle's price.

Don't find out about them late in the car buying stage, when you're already emotionally attached to the vehicle you want to buy, and/or so emotionally drained by the buying process you'll pay that extra bit, just to make it stop.

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metro

This used Audi is fit for the race track

SECOND GEAR



JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONWS.CA

The 2007 to 2008 Audi RS4 might have been one of the world's foremost sleeper sedans.

Subtle and discreet styling upgrades concealed a track-tuned chassis, high-performance version of the brand's Quattro AWD system and a race-ready engine.

The RS4 Sedan was available on our shores as a 2007 or 2008 model that came with upgraded aerodynamics, brakes and suspension components.

2007 to 2008 Audi RS4



What owners like

RS4's discreet, ultra-performance execution was its major draw. Performance, relative comfort handling, all-season capabilities and a semi-practical four-door body rounded out the owner-stated praise points for the RS4.



What owners dislike

Gripes commonly included limited rear-seat space, a rough ride on some surfaces and, of course, excessive fuel consumption.



Engine

All RS4 models came just one way: with a 4.2-litre V-8 cranking out 420 horsepower en route to an 8,000 RPM redline, teamed up with AWD and a six-speed manual transmission.

Common issues

Have a mechanic check for fluid leaks and ensure the shock absorbers aren't worn out or "blown".

Verdict

All in all, a well-maintained RS4 should provide an extremely rewarding and relatively worry-free year-round motoring experience for years to come. Just budget for a radar-detector, too.

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Sat. Dec. 3 11:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sun. Dec. 4 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
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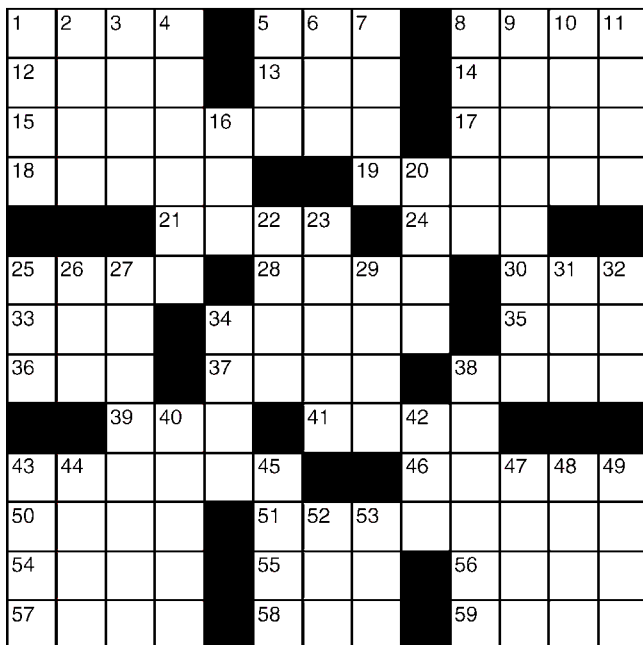
Crossword

Across

- 1 Mosque bigwig
- 5 Scale member
- 8 Equipment
- 12 Hardy cabbage
- 13 Commotion
- 14 World's fair
- 15 Went boom
- 17 Newspaper page
- 18 Supermarket section
- 19 Undergo without yielding
- 21 Exam format
- 24 Still, in verse
- 25 Make tea
- 28 Took to the skies
- 30 Festive
- 33 Actor Harrison
- 34 Animal stomachs
- 35 Away from WSW
- 36 Pump up the volume
- 37 Base runner's goal
- 38 Tosses in
- 39 Historic period
- 41 Venomous vipers
- 43 What to call an English nobleman
- 46 Puppeteer Lewis
- 50 Norway's capital
- 51 Atoned for
- 54 Coaster
- 55 Central
- 56 Fashion
- 57 Danson and Nugent
- 58 Eggs
- 59 Heroic verse

Down

- 1 Furniture store chain



- 2 Long skirt
- 3 Swiss peaks
- 4 Laid-back
- 5 Despondent
- 6 Rhyming tribute
- 7 Source of wealth
- 8 Crystal-lined rock
- 9 Obliterated
- 10 Mimic
- 11 Took the bus
- 16 "— the ramparts ..."
- 20 Information
- 22 Frizzy coiffure
- 23 Camel's cousin
- 25 Bikini half

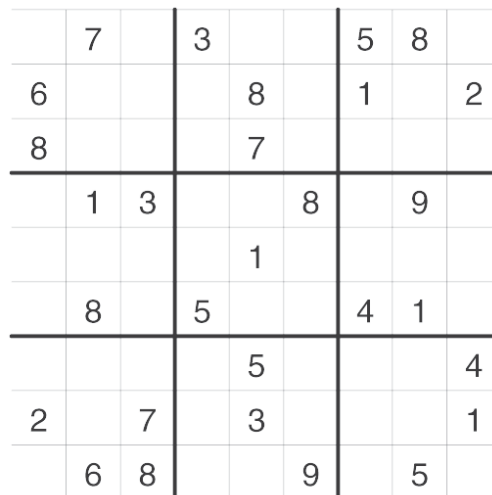
- 26 Sleep phenom
- 27 Kicked out of school
- 29 Rams fans?
- 31 Moreover
- 32 "Certainly"
- 34 Burn somewhat
- 38 Fats Domino's "Ain't That —"
- 40 Crucifixes
- 42 Omega preceder
- 43 Lion's share
- 44 Capri, for one
- 45 Showroom sample
- 47 On
- 48 Start over

- 49 Mid-month date
- 52 Louis —
- 53 BlackBerry, for ex.

► Yesterday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ►

1	8	2	5	4	6	3	9	7
6	3	9	8	7	1	5	4	2
4	7	5	2	9	3	1	8	6
9	2	3	1	5	8	7	6	4
5	6	7	3	2	4	8	1	9
8	4	1	9	6	7	2	5	3
3	9	6	7	1	5	4	2	8
7	5	4	6	8	2	9	3	1
2	1	8	4	3	9	6	7	5

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

To BH,
Hi Honey, 24 days and counting before you are here with me. I am so looking forward to seeing you, holding you and kissing you. All I want for Christmas is you.....Love you more xxxxxxxx
MPPP

Propellor
We only every see each other briefly, maybe once a week. But your sweet smile sustains me until the next time. I wonder if you're single? I hope so, as I'm determined to get to know the person behind that beautiful face.

GROWLER

Hey Lady
the longest of nights, just thinking of your soft skin, and your fiery red hair.

MISTER

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You will be focusing on mundane matters such as how to pay the bills and make ends meet today.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Don't let others infect you with their doom and gloom attitude. You know that misery loves company.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 If you don't want to get in the bad books of people you live and work with, don't second guess them.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 If something that usually goes right for you starts going wrong today, it's a sign you need to think again.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23 With mind planet Mercury currently moving retrograde, you must make sure you've got your facts straight.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22 Having second thoughts about something in which you're involved? It would be a mistake to make changes.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 What people say and what they mean will be two very different things today. It pays to be suspicious.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You may be at a loss to explain why certain things are happening, but don't make too big a deal of it.

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

The more someone complains about what you are doing, the more you will do it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

If you're the kind of Capricorn who learns from your mistakes, you will learn a lot over the next 24 hours.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

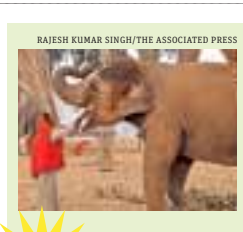
You will have a hard time convincing people today. Live and let live.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. The more people make an issue of something that doesn't bother you, the more necessary it is to distance yourself. **SALLY BROMPTON**



Caption contest

"Whoa!!
90 degree shift in gravity!"
SEAN



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Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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